

Remarks

The present Reply is in response to the Office Action mailed June 5, 2006. Claims 2-16 are pending in the application for reconsideration.

Summary of the Office Action

In the Office Action, claims 2, 3 and 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0188790 to Park et al., and claims 4-7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,192,399 to Goodman.

Response to Claim Rejections

Claim 2 has also been modified to recite switching of the path between the receive port and the transmit port of the second device.

Claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 are canceled, and their limitations are added to claim 2.

After adding the limitations, claim 2 is modified so that the power supplied across the path is power used for monitoring and switching, rather than for operating the second device.

Claim 2 now recites a 10BaseT communication link that operates over a single pair that is actively in use for ordinary telephone communication. Low and high pass filters keep the telephone signals separate from the Ethernet signals. Power is transmitted from one end of the communication line for use at the opposite end.

In the previous rejection, Park, Goodman, and Rabenko were required to be combined to create 10BaseT communication over a single active telephone line wherein power is transmitted above voice and below data to drive the 10BaseT device at the opposite end. Claim 2, as currently amended, does not recite such a system because it is the switching and monitoring functions that are powered, and

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they are not part of the 10BaseT devices. Rather, they create the adaptation that allows the link to function.

All the other claims are dependent on claim 2.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request that all objections and rejections be withdrawn and that a notice of allowance be forthcoming. If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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